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SECURITY INFORMATION  
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

028384

CIA ISC HQ

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Proposal for a Special Intelligence Estimate

1. In view of the expected visit of the British Prime Minister to the United States in the near future and the anticipated inclusion of an item on his agenda relating to written formalization of the US-UK agreement on employment of UK air bases by the US Strategic Air Force units, it is considered appropriate to recommend the preparation of a special estimate on the following subject:

"British Intentions with Respect to the Employment of UK Bases by US Strategic Bombers in the Event of General War or an Emergency Requiring Their Use in Atomic Attacks on the Soviet Union."

2. This estimate should be prepared on a crash priority basis, and among other things should also encompass:

a. An historical summary of the US-UK verbal agreements which established the SAC program in the UK and the scale, nature and importance of SAC activities in Great Britain.

b. A survey of British groups, particularly the Bevan school, which oppose to varying degrees the basing of US bombers in the UK to determine their strength and likely effect on preventing or obstructing a formalized written agreement.

c. An examination of the British understandings of the verbal agreement which is the basis for the SAC program.

d. An estimate as to the likely approach which the British may take in formalizing an agreement in writing, i.e., to what extent they will insist on participation in decisions to employ the bases as SAC launching points for atomic attacks on Soviet Russia.

*John A. Samford*  
JOHN A. SAMFORD  
MAJOR GENERAL, USAF  
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

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